"(b) As the financial position of the municipal council according to its Budget Estimate for 1953–54 was not satisfactory sanction for the payment of the contribution was refused. The question whether the matter may be reconsidered is under consideration separately in view of the improvement of the financial position of the municipal council according to its Revised Estimate for 1953–54."

Party to the Members of the Taxation Enquiry Commission.

* 1350 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the State Government gave any party to the Members of the Taxation Enquiry Commission on 30th April 1954; and

(*b*) if so, the expenses incurred thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) An expenditure of Rs. 390–3–6 was incurred."

Number of Harijans on the staff of the Fisheries Department in Malabar.

* 1351 *Q.*—SRI M. CHADAYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of Harijans in the categories of Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Petty Officers and Clerks in the Fisheries Department in Malabar district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors—Nil.

Petty Yard Officers—3.

Clerks—2."

Change in the rate of discount allowed to stamp vendors in municipal towns.

* 1352 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any change was made in the rate of discount allowed to stamp vendors in the municipal towns with a population of more than 40,000 or 50,000;

(*b*) if so, when the change was made;

(*c*) the loss sustained by the Government now on account of this change; and

(*d*) whether the change of rate was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and if so, when?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) Yes. The rates of discount were reduced from 6 pies to 4 pies per rupee in respect of non-judicial hundi stamps and

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impressed stamps not exceeding Rs. 50 in value each and from 6 pies to 2 pies per rupee in respect of copy stamp papers in towns with a population of over 50,000.

" (*b*) January 1937.

" (*c*) There is no question of loss to the Government as a result of this reduction in rates.

" (*d*) No."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" What was the reason that induced the Government to decrease the rate of discount? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The rate of discount was reduced in the case of municipalities having a population of more than 50,000. Probably it was because of the increase in sale in such places."

Decision of the Government on the Modified Education Scheme.

* 1353 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have examined the Modified Education Scheme as promised by the Hon. Minister for Finance on 26th March 1954; and

(*b*) if so, the final decision of the Government in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the detailed statements made by me on 18th May 1954 and during the subsequent debate on the subject."

* 1354 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Modified Scheme of Elementary Education introduced by Sri C. Rajagopalachariar, an ex-Chief Minister of this State, will be continued in the next academic year with Parulekar Committee's recommendations?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement made by me during the last session of the Assembly regarding the policy of the present Government in respect of elementary education."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" அந்த விவாதத்தின்போது கனம் மந்திரியார் அவர்கள் அளித்த வாக்குறுதியின் பிரகாரம் ஆரம்பக் கல்வி திட்டத்தை பரிசீலிக்க விசாரணைக் கமிட்டி நியமிக்கப்பட்டதா? அப்படி இல்லாமல் இருந்தால் எப்பொழுது நியமிக்கப்படும்? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I hope to constitute the committee very soon."